

**National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594**

Brief of Accident

Adopted 09/24/1995

ANC95LA023		01/02/1995		CRAIG, AK		Aircraft Reg No. N242SS		Time (Local): 10:35 AST	
File No. 318									
Make/Model: CESSNA / 208						Fatal		Serious	
Engine Make/Model: P&W / PT6A-114						Crew		0	
Aircraft Damage: Substantial						Pass		0	
Number of Engines: 1								Minor/None	
Operating Certificate(s): Commuter Air Carrier								1	
Name of Carrier: TAQUAN AIR SERVICE								7	
Type of Flight Operation: Scheduled; Domestic; Passenger/Cargo									
Reg. Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter									
Last Depart. Point: KETCHIKAN , AK						Condition of Light: Day			
Destination: Same as Accident/Incident Location						Weather Info Src: Pilot			
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip						Basic Weather: Visual Conditions			
						Lowest Ceiling: None			
						Visibility: 50.00 SM			
						Wind Dir/Speed: Light and Variable			
						Temperature (°C): -2			
						Obstr to Vision: Fog			
						Precipitation: None			
Pilot-in-Command		Age: 26				Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)						Total All Aircraft: 4331			
Airline Transport; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea						Last 90 Days: 68			
Instrument Ratings						Total Make/Model: 100			
Airplane						Total Instrument Time: 224			

THE FLOAT EQUIPPED AIRPLANE STRUCK A PARTIALLY SUBMERGED LOG DURING A SALT WATER LANDING. THE PILOT REPORTED HE LOOKED AT THE LANDING SITE PRIOR TO LANDING, BUT HIS VISION WAS RESTRICTED BY SUN GLARE AND A THIN LAYER OF FOG SITTING ON THE WATER'S SURFACE. SHORTLY AFTER THE PILOT REDUCED POWER TO SLOW THE AIRPLANE'S TAXI SPEED, THE RIGHT FLOAT STRUCK A LOG. THE AIRPLANE VEERED SHARPLY TO THE RIGHT, AND THE LEFT FLOAT STRUT SUBSEQUENTLY COLLAPSED, ALLOWING THE LEFT WING TO STRIKE THE WATER.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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CRAIG, AK

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Time (Local): 10:35 AST

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: TAXI - FROM LANDING

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - SUBMERGED OBJECT
2. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - SUNGLARE
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
4. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.

THE PILOT'S SELECTION OF AN UNSUITABLE LANDING AREA. FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCIDENT WERE THE SUN GLARE, THE PARTIALLY SUBMERGED LOG, AND THE SHALLOW FOG LAYER ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER (LANDING SURFACE).